strategy, an integrated Technology Development Plan, a policy framework, for promotion of new technologies and programmes of action to introduce scientific and technological content relevant to the concerned departments.

Task Force on Electronics for Health Care

1304. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the task force on electronics for health care set up by Government in August has recommended the launching of a technology mission;

(b) if so, whether Government have accepted the suggestion;

(c) what will be the main functions of these missions; and

(d) what are the other suggestions made by the task force and to what extent the Department of Electronics had examined these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir. Task Force on Electronics for Health Care recommended institution of a Technology Development Mission

(b) The report of the Task Force has been submitted and recommendations are under consideration.

(c) The main objective envisaged of the Technology Development Mission is to develop market and establish indigenous systems of health care programme at primary, community and district health centres, teaching and R & D institutions, and technology upgradation of specific medical electronic equipment.

(d) The other main suggestions of the Task Force include the following:—

(i) Indigenous equipment supplied to all organisations enjoying duty free import status be treated as 'DEEMED EXPORT'.

(ii) Central Agency be formed for standardisation saftey and quality certification of all medical electronic equipment.

(iii) A forum be established for a continuing dialogue between the Central Ministries like Health, Planning, Industry, Department of Electronics, the State Health Ministries, the professional bodies of Hospitals, Medical Practitioners, with the various manufacturers including Associations.

(iv) To give special emphasis on Maintenance and Manpower development in Biomedical Engineering.

The recommendations are under consideration.

Design of Third Aircraft Carrier for Navy

1365. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that navy's third aircraft carrier is to have a French design;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether a change in design is being preferred, if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) : (a) to (c) A contract has been recently signed with M/s. SOFMA of France for the Concept Design Study of a Sea Control Ship in accordance with the Staff Requirements of the Indian Navy.

Purchase of Alcoholic Drinks by Defence Canteen

1366. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) what criteria has been laid down by the defence canteen store purchase department for enlistment of manufacturers/distributors' for purchase of Alcoholic drinks such as IMFL, Rum, Beer etc.;

(b) what are the names, addresses of the companies, firms or individuals who have applied for such enlistment/supplies of Alcoholic drinks referred to above during the last one year as on date; and

(c) the names approved and rejected and grounds for such approval and rejections party-wise and item-wise and period of contact, supply terms and annual quantity allocated party-wise and item-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) : (a) The general criteria followed is given in the enclosed statement (*See* below)

(b) and (c) During the last one year (contract for 1988), 150 suppliers applied to CSD for supply of different brands of rum, IMFL and beer and orders were placed on 76 suppliers for various items/brands. The requisite information in respect of Rum is given in Annex 'B' [*See* Appendix VXLIX, Annexure No. 73] and in respect of IMFL, Beer etc. is given in Annexes C-I [*See* Appendix CXLIX, Annexure No. 74] and C-II [*See* Appendix CXLIX, Annexure No. 75]

Statement

General criteria for enlistment of manufacturers for purchase of alcoholic drinks such as IMEL, Rum, Beer, etc.

(i) One [illegible] one distillery.

(ii) Preference to well known distilleries of national repute.

(iii) Encouragement is given to Co-operative Societies and Government concerns.

(iv) Priority is given to: (a) distilleries/brands from the various regions [illegible] already represented in the CSD range; and (b) distilleries as compared to bottling plants.

(v) Introduction of the products of only those distilleries which have had reasonably good sales in the civil market in the pending 3 years.

(vi) Only those distilleries which have been hygienically tested and found fit are considered.

Agreements on Space and Science and Technology

1367. SHRI VISHWA BANDHU GUPTA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has signed a number of Technical agreements on Science and Technology particularly in Space with several countries;

(b) whether it is also a fact that recently an agreement has been signed with France and earlier an agreement was signed with U.S.S.R.;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and steps taken for their implementation; and

(d) what is the relative position with regard to China in field?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir. India has signed technical agreements on matters related to Space with several countries.

(b) No fresh agreement has been signed recently with France. Co-operation with the Fr[illegible] Agency is being pursued under [illegible]ent signed in 1972 which is renewed periodically.

Recently, the following two agreements have been signed with USSR on Space:—

(i) Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on long term co-operation in the exploration and used of outer space for peaceful purpose signed on November 20, 1988.

(ii) Agreement between Government of India and the Government of the